

P19724.A13

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/696,178

Group Art Unit : 3737

Applicants : K. FURUSAWA et al.

Examiner : John Sanders

Filed : October 26, 2000

Title : ENDOSCOPE SYSTEM

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action of December 17, 2003, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on March 17, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this Response.